

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT CABINET  
Kentucky Board of Nursing**

**201 KAR 20:470. Dialysis technician credentialing requirements and training program standards.**

RELATES TO: KRS 314.035, 314.137

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 314.131(1), 314.137

NECESSITY, FUNCTION AND CONFORMITY: KRS 314.137 requires the board to promulgate administrative regulations to regulate dialysis technicians. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for dialysis technician training programs and for credentialing dialysis technicians.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Approved dialysis technician training program" means a program to train dialysis technicians that is approved by the board.

(2) "Central venous catheter" means a catheter that is inserted in such a manner that the distal tip is located in the superior vena cava.

Section 2. Requirements for Dialysis Technician Credential. (1)(a) An individual who applies to be credentialed as a dialysis technician in order to engage in dialysis care shall:

1. File with the board the "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential";
2. Have completed an approved dialysis technician training program;
3. Pay the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation;
4. Provide to the board a certified copy of the court record of any misdemeanor or felony conviction from any jurisdiction, except for traffic-related misdemeanors (other than DUI) or misdemeanors older than five (5) years; and
5. Provide to the board a letter of explanation that addresses each conviction.

(b)1. If the individual has completed an out-of-state dialysis technician training program, the board or its designee shall evaluate the applicant's training program to determine its comparability with the standards as stated in Section 7 of this administrative regulation.

2. The board or its designee shall advise an applicant if the training program is not comparable and specify what additional components shall be completed to meet the requirements of Section 7 of this administrative regulation.

3. An individual who has completed an out-of-state dialysis technician training program shall be required to complete that portion of a board-approved dialysis technician

training program related to the legal and ethical aspects of practice as set forth in the "Dialysis Technician Training Program Guide".

(2) An individual shall be exempt from the credentialing requirement while enrolled in an approved dialysis technician training program. The individual shall use the title dialysis technician trainee.

(3) Upon approval of the application, the board shall initially issue the dialysis technician credential for twenty-four (24) months following the month of issuance. The credential shall lapse on the last day of the credentialing period.

(4) (a) An applicant for a dialysis technician credential may engage in dialysis care as a dialysis technician applicant upon:

1. Receipt by the board of the "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential"; and
2. Meeting the requirements of subsection (6) of this section.

(b) The dialysis technician applicant shall only practice dialysis care as an applicant until:

1. The credential is issued; or
2. The application is denied by the board.

(5) An "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential" shall be valid for six (6) months from the date of receipt by the board.

(6) A felony or misdemeanor conviction shall be reviewed to determine whether:

(a) The application shall be processed with no further action;

(b) The application shall be processed only after:

1. The applicant has entered into an agreed order with the board with terms and conditions as agreed by the parties; or
2. If the parties are unable to agree on terms and conditions, a hearing is held and a final decision is entered by the board; or
3. A notice to deny credential shall be issued. A notice to deny credential shall inform the applicant that he may request a hearing. The request shall be in writing.

Section 3. Renewal. (1) To be eligible for renewal of the credential, the dialysis technician shall submit, no later than one (1) month prior to the expiration date of the credential:

- (a) The "Application for Renewal of the Dialysis Technician Credential"; and
- (b) The fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation.

(2) Upon approval of the application, the credential shall be renewed for twenty-four (24) months. The credential shall lapse on the last day of the credentialing period.

Section 4. Reinstatement. (1) If the dialysis technician credential has lapsed for a period of less than one (1) credentialing period, the individual may reinstate the credential by:

- (a) Submitting the "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential"; and
- (b) Paying the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation.

(2) If the dialysis technician credential has lapsed for more than one (1) credentialing period, the dialysis technician may reinstate the credential by:

- (a) Submitting the "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential";
- (b) Paying the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation; and
- (c) Submitting the "Checklist for Dialysis Technician Competency Validation" signed by a board-approved dialysis technician training program administrator.

(3) An "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential" shall be valid for one (1) year from the date of receipt by the board.

(4) Upon approval of the application, the credential shall be reinstated for twenty-four (24) months following the month of issuance. The credential shall lapse on the last day of the credentialing period.

Section 5. Scope of Practice. (1) The scope of practice of a dialysis technician shall include the following and shall be performed under the direct, on-site supervision of a registered nurse or a physician:

- (a) Preparation and cannulation of peripheral access sites (arterial-venous fistulas and arterial-venous grafts);
- (b) Initiating, delivering or discontinuing dialysis care'
- (c) Administration of the following medications only:

1. Heparin 1:1000 units or less concentration either to prime the pump, initiate treatment, or for administration throughout the treatment, in an amount prescribed by a physician, physician's assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner. The dialysis technician shall not administer heparin in concentrations greater than 1:1000 units.

2. Normal saline via the dialysis machine to correct dialysis-induced hypotension based on the facility's medical protocol. Amounts beyond that established in the facility's medical protocol shall not be administered without direction from a registered nurse or a physician.

3. Intradermal lidocaine, in an amount prescribed by a physician, physician's assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner;

- (d) Assistance to the registered nurse in data collection;
- (e) Obtaining a blood specimen via a dialysis line or a peripheral access site;
- (f) Responding to complications that arise in conjunction with dialysis care, and
- (g) Performance of other acts as delegated by the registered nurse pursuant to 201 KAR 20:400.

(2) The scope of practice of a dialysis technician shall not include:

- (a) Dialysis care for acutely ill, unstable patients;
- (b) The connection and disconnection of patients from, and the site care and catheter port preparation of, percutaneously or surgically inserted central venous catheters; and
- (c) The administration of blood and blood products.

Section 6. Discipline of a Dialysis Technician. (1) A dialysis technician, an employer of dialysis technicians, or any person having knowledge of facts shall report to the board a dialysis technician who may have violated any provision of this administrative regulation.

(2) The board shall have the authority to discipline a dialysis technician for:

- (a) Failure to safely and competently perform the duties of a dialysis technician as stated in Section 5 of this administrative regulation;
- (b) Practicing beyond the scope of practice as stated in Section 5 of this administrative regulation;
- (c) Conviction of a misdemeanor or felony which involved fraud, deceit, a breach of trust, or physical harm or endangerment to others, or acts that bear directly on the qualifications or ability of the dialysis technician to practice dialysis care;
- (d) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a credential by fraud or deceit;
- (e) Abusing controlled substances, prescription medications, or alcohol;
- (f) Misuse or misappropriation of any drug placed in the custody of the dialysis technician for administration, or for use of others;
- (g) Falsified or in a negligent manner made incorrect entries or failed to make essential entries on essential records;
- (h) Having a dialysis technician credential disciplined by another jurisdiction on grounds sufficient to cause a credential to be disciplined in this Commonwealth;
- (i) Practicing without filing an "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential" or without holding a dialysis technician credential;
- (j) Abuse of a patient;

- (k) Theft of facility or patient property;
  - (l) Having disciplinary action on a professional or business license;
  - (m) Violating any lawful order or directive previously entered by the board;
  - (n) Violating any administrative regulation promulgated by the board; or
  - (o) Having been listed on the nurse aide abuse registry with a substantiated finding of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of property.
- (3) The discipline may include the following:
- (a) Immediate temporary suspension of the credential, following the procedure set out in KRS 314.089;
  - (b) Reprimand of the credential;
  - (c) Probation of the credential for a specified period of time, with or without limitations and conditions;
  - (d) Suspension of the credential for a specified period of time; or
  - (e) Permanent revocation of the credential.
- (4) The board shall follow the procedures set out in and have the authority set forth in KRS 314.091, 201 KAR 20:161 and 201 KAR 20:162 for management and resolution of complaints filed against a dialysis technician.
- (5) In addition to the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, the board may impose a civil penalty of up to \$10,000.

Section 7. Dialysis Technician Training Program Standards. (1) Program administrator. A registered nurse, holding a current, active Kentucky license, with at least one (1) year of experience in dialysis care, shall be administratively responsible for planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the dialysis technician training program. The name, title, and credentials identifying the educational and professional qualifications of the program administrator shall be provided to the board. A change in the program administrator shall be reported to the board within thirty (30) days of the change.

(2) Faculty qualifications. The dialysis technician training program shall be taught by multidisciplinary faculty with expertise in the subject matter. The name, title, and credentials identifying the educational and professional qualifications of each instructor shall be provided to the board. A change in faculty shall be reported to the board within thirty (30) days of the change.

(3) The dialysis technician training program shall be based upon the "Dialysis Technician Training Program Guide".

(4) The dialysis technician training program syllabus shall include:

- (a) Prerequisites for admission to the program.
- (b) Program outcomes. The outcomes shall provide statements of measurable competencies to be demonstrated by the learner.
- (c) Objectives. Objectives shall be stated in behavioral terms with supportive content identified.
- (d) Content. The content shall be described in outline format with corresponding time frame and testing schedules.
- (e) Teaching methods. The activities of both instructor and learner shall be specified. These activities shall be congruent with stated objectives and content, and reflect application of adult learning principles.
- (f) Instructional or reference materials. All required instructional reference materials shall be identified.
- (g) Evaluation. There shall be clearly defined criteria for evaluating the learner's achievement of program outcomes. There shall also be a process for annual program evaluation by trainees, program providers, faculty, administration, and employers.
- (h) Any proposed substantive changes to the dialysis technician training program syllabus after initial submission shall be submitted to the board in writing and shall not be implemented without approval from the board.
- (5) Trainee clinical practice requirements. The dialysis technician trainee enrolled in a dialysis technician training program shall practice dialysis care incidental to the training program only under the supervision of a faculty member, or his designee.
- (6) The dialysis technician training program shall be at least 400 hours in length. A minimum of 200 hours shall be didactic.
- (7) Completion requirements. Requirements for successful completion of the dialysis technician training program shall be clearly specified. The requirements shall include demonstration of clinical competency and successful completion of a comprehensive, written final examination. There shall be a statement of policy regarding a trainee who fails to successfully complete the training program. The statement of policy adopted by the training program shall include requirements that a person:
  - (a) Shall not be enrolled in a training program more than two (2) times;
  - (b) Shall show continuing progress toward completion of the program; and
  - (c) Who fails to successfully complete the program within twenty (20) calendar weeks shall cease functioning as a trainee until that person is reenrolled in a subsequent training program if that opportunity still exists pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection.
- (8) At a minimum, the following records shall be maintained by the program:

- (a) Provider name, date and site of the training program;
  - (b) The program code number issued by the board; and
  - (c) Trainee roster, with a minimum of name, date of birth, Social Security number, and program completion date.
- (9) An individual who successfully completes the training program shall receive a certificate of completion that documents the following:
- (a) Name of individual;
  - (b) Title of training program, date of completion, and location;
  - (c) Provider's name;
  - (d) The program code number issued by the board; and
  - (e) Name and signature of program administrator.
- (10) The program shall submit the "List of Dialysis Technician Training Program Graduates" within three (3) days of the program completion date.

Section 8. Dialysis Technician Training Program Initial Approval. (1) To receive initial approval, a dialysis technician training program shall:

- (a) File an "Application for Dialysis Technician Training Program Approval"; and
  - (b) Pay the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation.
- (2) Board approval for a dialysis technician training program that meets the requirements of this administrative regulation shall be granted for a two (2) year period from the date of approval.
- (3) Upon approval, the board shall issue a program code number.

Section 9. Continued Board Approval of a Dialysis Technician Training Program. (1) To receive continued approval, a dialysis technician training program shall:

- (a) File an "Application for Dialysis Technician Training Program Approval"; and
  - (b) Pay the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation.
- (2) The application shall be submitted at least two (2) months prior to the end of the current approval period.
- (3) Continued approval shall be based on compliance with the standards set out in Section 7 of this administrative regulation.
- (4) Continued approval shall be granted for a two (2) year period.
- (5) If a program fails to maintain continued approval, the approval shall lapse.

Section 10. Reinstatement of Dialysis Technician Training Programs. A program whose approval has lapsed and that seeks to reinstate that approval shall:

- (1) File an "Application for Dialysis Technician Training Program Approval"; and
- (2) Pay the fee established in Section 12 of this administrative regulation.

Section 11. Board Actions on Dialysis Technician Training Programs. (1) The board may deny, limit, revoke or suspend the approval status of a dialysis technician training program for violation of the standards set out in this administrative regulation.

(2) A dialysis technician training program administrator may appeal a board decision concerning approval using the following procedure:

(a) A written request for the review shall be filed with the board within thirty (30) days after the date of notification of the board action which the dialysis technician training program administrator contests.

(b) The board, or its designee, shall conduct a review. The dialysis technician training program administrator may appear in person to present reasons why the board's decision should be set aside or modified.

(c) The dialysis technician training program administrator shall be notified of the board's decision.

Section 12. Fees. (1) The application fee for the initial credential shall be sixty (60) dollars.

(2) The credential renewal fee shall be sixty (60) dollars.

(3) The credential reinstatement fee shall be sixty (60) dollars.

(4) The dialysis technician training program initial approval fee shall be \$950.

(5) The dialysis technician training program continued approval fee shall be \$800.

(6) The dialysis technician training program reinstatement fee shall be \$950.

(7) An additional fee of twenty-five (25) dollars shall be charged for an application for renewal of the credential that is filed after the deadline for filing.

(8) An additional fee of \$150 shall be charged for an application for continued dialysis technician training program approval that is filed after the deadline for filing.

(9) A fee of thirty-five (35) dollars shall be charged for issuing a duplicate of the credential.

(10) A check submitted to the board for payment of a fee which is returned by the bank for nonpayment shall be assessed a return check fee of twenty-five (25) dollars.



(11) A fee of thirty-five (35) dollars shall be charged for verification of a dialysis technician credential.

(12) A fee of twenty-five (25) dollars shall be charged for a duplicate application form which is issued due to the failure to maintain a current mailing address as required by Section 13 of this administrative regulation.

(13) All fees are nonrefundable.

Section 13. Miscellaneous Requirements. (1) Any person credentialed by the board as a dialysis technician shall maintain a current mailing address with the board and immediately notify the board in writing of a change of mailing address.

(2) As a condition of holding a credential from the board, a dialysis technician is deemed to have consented to service of notices or orders of the board at the mailing address on file with the board. Any notice or order of the board mailed or delivered to the mailing address on file with the board constitutes valid service of the notice or order.

(3) Any dialysis technician credentialed by the board shall, within thirty (30) days of entry of the final judgment, notify the board in writing of any misdemeanor or felony conviction in this or any other jurisdiction. Upon learning of any failure to notify the board under this provision, the board may initiate an action for immediate temporary suspension until the person submits the required notification.

(4) Any dialysis technician credentialed by the board shall immediately notify the board in writing if any professional or business license that is issued to the person by any agency of the Commonwealth or any other jurisdiction is surrendered or terminated under threat of disciplinary action or is refused, limited, suspended, or revoked, or if renewal of continuance is denied.

(5) If the board has reasonable cause to believe that any dialysis technician is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety or has abused alcohol or drugs, it may require the person to submit to a mental or physical examination by a physician or psychologist it designates. Upon failure of the person to submit to a mental or physical examination, unless due to circumstances beyond the person's control, the board may initiate an action for immediate temporary suspension pursuant to KRS 314.089 or deny an application until the person submits to the required examination.

(6) Every dialysis technician shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination when so directed in writing by the board. The direction to submit to an examination shall contain the basis of the board's reasonable cause to believe that the person is unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety, or has abused alcohol or drugs. The person shall be deemed to have waived all objections to the admissibility of the examining physician's or psychologist's testimony or examination reports on the ground of privileged communication.

(7) The dialysis technician shall bear the cost of any mental or physical examination ordered by the board.

(8) The board may make an unannounced monitoring visit to a dialysis technician training program to determine if the program is complying with all regulatory requirements.

Section 14. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following materials are incorporated by reference:

(a) "Application for Dialysis Technician Training Program Approval" (August 14, 2001), Kentucky Board of Nursing;

(b) "Application for Dialysis Technician Credential" (August 14, 2001), Kentucky Board of Nursing;

(c) "Application for Renewal of Dialysis Technician Credential" 4/2003, Kentucky Board of Nursing;

(d) "Checklist for Dialysis Technician Competency Validation" (August 14, 2001), Kentucky Board of Nursing;

(e) "Dialysis Technician Training Program Guide" (August 14, 2001), Kentucky Board of Nursing; and

(f) "List of Dialysis Technician Training Program Graduates" (August 14, 2001), Kentucky Board of Nursing.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Kentucky Board of Nursing, 312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 300, Louisville, Kentucky 40222-5172, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (28 Ky.R. 723; Am. 1115; eff. 10-17-2001; 29 Ky.R. 2952; **eff. 8-13-03.**)